

N595 Pest Management

Purpose

To minimize entry of chemical contaminants in ground and surface water by following a pest management plan. The pest management plan will assist the operator in determining whether, when, and how an application of pesticides (herbicide, fungicide, insecticide) should occur for the crop. The definition of operator for the purpose of this practice is any individual farming the land that incurred the farm operating expenditures. The operator's name should also be listed on file with FSA as the operator of such land. The contract must contain the name of the legal owner.

Applicability

Applies to cropland/hay land/pastureland where pesticides have been inappropriately managed.

Erosion Requirements

Practice has no erosion requirements.

Specifications

1. The completed practice must meet NRCS Standards and Specifications for the Integrated Pest Management (595) contained in the Field Office Technical Guide.
2. Items for Contract Payment
 - a. Receipts for the pesticide applied. The corresponding field numbers must be shown on the receipts.
 - b. A record of scouting dates and times, treatment application rates, dates and times for each field under contract.

Policies

1. Contracts must be board approved between January 1- April 15, prior to application of any treatments. Contract payments can be issued after October 31.
2. If the operator is not the legal landowner, an Operator Authorization Form must be completed in place of the Landowner Authorization for State Cost-Share form and scanned into MoSWIMS as a document type of "Landowner/Operator Authorization" prior to submission of the contract payment.
3. Spraying of fence rows is not eligible for payment.
4. All acres of the field included in the pest management plan are eligible for incentive when spot treatments are applied on at least 75% of the field.
5. A pesticide application on the crop/forage must be planned in order to qualify for the Pest Management incentive. Biological controls are not considered pesticide treatments.
6. N590 Nutrient Management and N595 Pest Management can be utilized on the same fields in the same year.

7. ***Cropland – *A crop needs to be planted to participate in this incentive.***

- a. As a minimum, crop scouting will require field visits and written reports by a trained individual (preferably a Certified Crop Advisor, CCA) during critical periods such as pre-plant, post-plant, mid-season, high risk pest infestation periods, and post-season. ALL crop fields receiving payment must be scouted a minimum of four times.
- b. To be eligible for the pest management incentive, the pest management plan must indicate that a chemical application is planned for the crop or pasture. If proper scouting indicates that an application does not need to be made, the operator is still eligible for the incentive.
- c. Incentive payments are not authorized when only mechanical or biological pest control practices are planned.

8. ***Grassland/Hay Land***

- a. To be eligible for participation in the Pest Management incentive, the Cool Season and Warm Season Grass fields must meet either the Forage and Biomass Harvest Management (511) or the Prescribed Grazing (528) specification in the Field Office Technical Guide.
- b. A pest (weeds, fungus, insects etc.) inventory from the previous crop should be available before the pest management plan is developed.
- c. May be used in conjunction with a grazing system during the maintenance life of the practice.
- d. A pest inventory must be done pre and post chemical application.

9. ***Cost-share is authorized for:***

- a. Incentive payments, following one complete growing season of an established pest management plan. This period begins with the board approval of the contract and continues through the growing season. For the purpose of cost-share, at a minimum the growing season will encompass the timeframe of April 15 – October 31.

Example: A contract must be approved by the board by April 15, and the contract payment cannot be approved prior to October 31 of the same calendar year.

10. ***Cost-share is not authorized for:***

- a. Utilization of any cost-share program to re-establish legumes in cool season or warm season grass fields receiving the pest management incentive. The operator should be informed that he or she would incur the entire expense to reestablish legumes in their cool season or warm season grass stands.

Maximum State Cost-Share

1. Incentive Payments

- a. Not to exceed \$10 per acre per year. The lifetime maximum an operator can receive from this practice is \$5,000.

- b. The operator does not have to participate in consecutive years. District boards should consider limiting operators to participation for multiple years. The definition of operator for the purpose of this practice is any individual farming the land (listed as the operator in the FSA office) and incurring the expense if pesticides need to be applied.
2. Utilize the Practice Limits Detail report in MoSWIMS to ensure compliance with applicable maximums.

Map Requirements

A map that displays the completed practice must be scanned and attached as a document type “Map” in MoSWIMS prior to contract payment submission.

Technical Responsibilities

Technical staff has the responsibility for determining the need for the practice, for design of the practice based upon the minimum extent necessary, and to certify that the completed practice meets NRCS standards and specifications within commission policy.

Acres Served

Acreage treated by the pest management plan.

Extent Installed

Acres.

Maintenance Life

This practice is completed upon contract payment therefore will not have a maintenance life.